

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-9. (canceled)

10. (new) A telecommunications network including at least one service control point and a plurality of interconnected service switching points, in which said service control point is arranged in use to respond to signals received from a gateway to another network to cause a call to be set up between two or more termination points of the telecommunications network, in which the service control point is arranged in use to send a message including a first instruction to one of the service switching points to cause a connection to a first of said two or more termination points characterised in that the service control point is arranged in use to send a second instruction embedded in the message to the same service switching point, in which said second instruction is arranged to force the service switching point to respond with a message to the service control point with an identity assigned by the service switching point to the action requested in the first instruction in which the service control point is arranged in use to receive further instruction signals from the gateway prior to receipt by the service control point of an event message from the service switching point in which the service control point is arranged, in use, to use the further instruction signals to send a modifying instruction message to the service switching point.

11. (new) A telecommunications network as claimed in claim 10 in which the gateway is present on a connectionless network and comprises an interface between the connectionless network and the telecommunications network to transfer instructions from a computer terminal of the connectionless network thus enabling a call connection in the telecommunications network to be originated by the computer terminal.

12. (new) A telecommunications network as claimed in claim 10 in which the first instruction received by the service control point includes the identity of two termination points of the telecommunications network, a first of which is associated with

the originating computer terminal and the other of which is derived from a page of information being viewed on the computer terminal.

13. (new) A telecommunications network as claimed in claim 10 in which the first instruction transmitted by the service control point causes a ringing instruction to be transmitted to the first termination point.

14. (new) A telecommunications network as claimed in claim 10 in which the second instruction requests charging information to be returned.

15. (new) A telecommunications network as claimed in claim 10 in which the second instruction contains an invalid instruction to the service switching point to cause the return of an associated query message.

16. (new) A telecommunications network as claimed in claim 10 in which the subsequent instruction received from the gateway is a cancellation instruction which causes the service control point to transmit an abort message to the service switching point to effect cancellation of the call in progress.

17. (new) A telecommunications network as claimed in claim 11 in which the connectionless network is an intranet or the internet, the gateway being responsible for converting protocol between the connectionless network and the telecommunications network.

18. (new) A telecommunications network as claimed in claim 10 comprising a connection oriented network.

19. (new) A method of operation of a telecommunications network including at least one service control point and a plurality of interconnected service switching points, the method including the steps of said service control point responding to signals received from a gateway to another network to cause a call to be set up between two or more termination points of the telecommunications network, the service control point sending a message inducing a first instruction to one of the service switching points to cause a connection to a first of said two or more termination points characterised in that the service control point sends a second instruction embedded in the message to the

same service switching point, said second instruction forcing a response from that service switching point in which an identity assigned by the service switching point to the action requested in the first instruction is passed by the service switching point to the service control point and in which on receipt of further instruction signals from the gateway prior to receipt by the service control point of an event message from the service switching point, the service control point is able to send a modifying instruction message to the service switching point.

20. (new) A method as claimed in claim 19 in which the gateway is present on a connectionless network and interfaces between the connectionless network and the telecommunications network to transfer instructions from a computer terminal of the connectionless network thus enabling a call connection in the telecommunications network to be originated by the computer terminal.

21. (new) A method as claimed in claim 19 in which the first instruction received by the service control point includes the identity of two termination points of the telecommunications network, a first of which is associated with the originating computer terminal and the other of which is derived from a page of information being viewed on the computer terminal.

22. (new) A method as claimed in claim 19 in which the first instruction transmitted by the service control point causes a ringing instruction to be transmitted to the first termination point.

23. (new) A method as claimed in claim 19 in which the second instruction requests charging information to be returned.

24. (new) A method as claimed in claim 19 in which the second instruction contains an invalid instruction to the service switching point to cause the return of an associated query message.

25. (new) A method as claimed in claim 19 in which the subsequent instruction received from the gateway is a cancellation instruction which causes the service control

point to transmit an abort message to the service switching point to effect cancellation of the call in progress.

26. (new) A method as claimed in claim 19 in which the connectionless network is an intranet or the internet, the gateway being responsible for converting protocol between the connectionless network and the telecommunications network.

27. (new) A method as claimed in claim 26 in which the telecommunications network comprises a connection oriented network.